

## POULTRY

In 1998, Minnesota's turkey growers raised 44.5 million turkeys, down 2% from the previous year. The total liveweight of turkeys produced was a record-high 1.028 billion pounds. The average price received for turkeys in 1998 was 35 cents per pound, down 4 cents from 1997. The value of the state's turkey production in 1998 was down 9% to \$359.8 million.

During 1998, hatcheries in the West North Central Region (which includes the states of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Minnesota) placed 95.8 million turkey poults, down slightly from 1997.

The state's egg production in 1998 was 3.15 billion eggs, an increase of 7% from 1997. The value of eggs produced fell 8% in 1998 to \$126.1 million. The all-egg price decreased to 48.0 cents per dozen. The annual average number of layers on farms rose 2% to 12.2 million. The total chicken inventory (excluding broilers) on December 1, 1998 was up 6% to 15.6 million birds.

Value of sales from chickens (excluding broilers) fell 9% to \$571,000.

In 1998, the number of broilers produced decreased 9% to 42.3 million. From 1997 to 1998, value of production decreased 10% to \$80.8 million. The annual average price per pound increased to 39.0 cents per pound.

Hatchery production of egg-type chicks decreased 3% to 22.3 million in 1998. These poultry estimates are based on survey data obtained from producers, hatcheries, and processing plants.

